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Update Number 4



HERCULANEUM LEAD SMELTER SITE Lead Removal

Herculaneum, Missouri

February 2003

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has produced this Update to keep you abreast of site activities, cleanup progress and address your concerns. Our goal is to provide an overview of the site, the problems found, the actions we have taken to address your concerns, as well as future plans.

Residential Cleanup Progress

Contaminated yard soil has been replaced at 162 residents and 83 home interiors have been cleaned. Wet winter weather has slowed work. EPA has provided 94 residences with HEPA vacuum cleaners. Free HEPA vacuum cleaners remain available for households that have not received one from EPA or Doe Run and that have lead-contaminated yard soil exceeding 400 parts per million (ppm).

EPA continues to request that all Herculaneum residents provide access to allow for sampling of your yards and homes and if necessary the replacement of contaminated soil and the cleaning of your home interior. EPA provides oversight of all these activities to ensure that they are performed correctly and courteously.

What's New?



Proposed Interim Slag Pile Plan

EPA is soliciting community feedback on the Proposed Interim Slag Pile Plan and would like to address questions and feedback at the February 18, 2003 community advisory group meeting. The plan is described in this Update.



Herculaneum Community Advisory Group

The Herculaneum Community Advisory Group's November 2002 meeting minutes are included with this Update. The CAG did not meet in December 2002.

The Herculaneum Community Advisory Group's will provide information that will be included with all upcoming Herculaneum Lead Smelter Site Updates.

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SUPERFUND RECORDS

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HERCULANEUM LEAD SMELTER SITE CONTACT LIST

If you have questions, please contact:

Health Information

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Denise Jordan-Izaguirre
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Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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Jefferson County Health Department

636-789-3372

Herculaneum Lead Smelter Site Community Advisory Group

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Herculaneum Community Revitalization Initiative

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Bob Feild, EPA Region 7
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Kerry Herndon, EPA Region 7
1-913-551-7286 or herndon.kerry@epa.gov

Site Information/Monitoring Programs

EPA Region 7

Bruce Morrison
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Jim Silver
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Site Information Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Dave Mosby
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Primary Focus Group Contact

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- provide storm water protection up to an elevation of 406 feet, the designated ten-year flood elevation
- prevent surface water run-on to the slag pile
- require the storm water runoff to be treated before it is discharged, or seek appropriate discharge permits

Storm Water Options

The first option is to construct a storm water collection trench near the toe of the pile on the west, south, and east sides of the pile.

Under the first option, a perforated pipe will be installed in this trench. The pipe will transfer storm water to a settling pond at the low point on the southeast side of the pile. The perforated pipe will be covered with gravel and/or slag. The pile will need to be graded so that the toe of the pile will cover this trench. The pile will then need to be covered up to an elevation of 406 feet with an impermeable membrane, plus at least a foot of clay, with a rock/soil covering. The impermeable membrane shall extend into the ground at least two feet below the base of the pile.

The second option is to construct a free-standing berm up to an elevation of 406 feet. This berm would be installed as close as possible to the toe of the pile in order to minimize additional natural resource damages. Inside the berm, storm water collection trenches would be installed to transfer run-off to a settling pond at the low point on the southeast side of the pile. Slag may be used as the core of the berm, provided it is covered with an impermeable membrane extending into the ground at least two feet below the base of the berm on both sides and is covered with at least one foot of clay/soil/vegetation.

For both options, storm water collected in the settling pond would be transferred to the

facility's wastewater treatment plant before it's discharged to the Mississippi River. This is providing the facility's wastewater treatment plant has the capacity to handle the volume of water projected during a 10-year rain event. If the facility's wastewater treatment plant does not have sufficient capacity, Doe Run shall seek appropriate discharge permits.

Herculaneum Community Revitalization Initiative

EPA has contracted with the Marasco Newton Group of Arlington, Virginia to work with the Herculaneum community to develop a strategy for improving the environment, economy and quality of life for residents of the community.

Marasco Newton will be working with the Herculaneum community to design an inclusive visioning process. This process is expected to include community members, community groups and civic organizations, local businesses, local utilities, city officials and state and federal environmental and economic development agencies.

Marasco Newton Group will conduct interviews and hold public meetings as part of this process.

Contacts for the Revitalization Initiative:

Doug Sarno (Marasco Newton) at 1-703-837-1197 or email djsarno@the-perspectivesgroup.com

Loretta Hiner (Marasco Newton) at 636-464-8112 or vhiner@hotmail.com

Bob Feild (EPA) at 1-913-551-7697 or feild.robert@epa.gov

Kerry Herndon (EPA) at 1-913-551-7286 or herndon.kerry@epa.gov

Lawn Maintenance

Guidance information sheets for maintaining and watering lawns are available at the EPA office trailer located at 351 Station Street.

Mr. Dean Wilson, a soil scientist from the Jefferson County Agricultural Extension Office is providing his expertise on the yard replacement soils for the community. He has already provided sampling results and recommendations for several deficient yards and is available for additional consulting on a case-by-case need. He can be reached at 636-797-5391.

Home Interior Focus Group

Drs. Scott Clark and David Sterling have met with the focus group on three occasions to address interior lead dust cleanup standards, sampling protocol, and cleanup procedures. Their preliminary recommendations suggested changes to sampling frequency and the reduction of the cleanup standards. The focus group is going to meet several more times before selecting the final actions to be taken.

The focus group includes community representatives, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the health agencies, Doe Run, and EPA.

Phosphate Treatment Proposal

Doe Run has requested that EPA consider using phosphate treatment of yard soils instead of replacing lead-contaminated yard soils. EPA is evaluating current research on this treatment technology to determine what additional studies need to be conducted to confirm this technology as an effective alternative to soil replacement.

Once this work is completed, and if it shows that phosphate treatment can be an effective alternative to soil replacement, the community would receive all the background information and be asked for their input on the proposed treatment technology.

Truck Wash

Doe Run completed construction of an enclosed truck wash capable of washing trucks during below freezing weather periods.

Slag Pile Fence

Doe Run completed construction of a six-foot fence around the north and west sides of the slag pile.

Proposed Interim Slag Pile Plan

EPA and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources are recommending that Doe Run implement one of two measures to control surface run-on and runoff, and isolate the slag pile from a 10-year flood event. The two main objectives of the interim slag pile measures are to

- reduce the slag material from migrating offsite, and
- secure the site from public access

Although the control measures differ, both are designed for flood protection. One measure proposes building a berm or dike around the slag pile, while the other proposes capping the base of the pile. Both of the proposed options would:

November 19, 2002
Large CAG Meeting Minutes

I. Minutes of August, September and October 2002 were approved.

II. The agenda was approved.

Tim Myers introduced Miranda Duncan who was approved to serve as the interim facilitator. She is employed as a Community Development Specialist by University Outreach & Extension.

III. Old Business

(a) CAG approved the recommendation to change the Action Group meetings to the second Tuesday of every month instead of the first Tuesday. The next meeting of the Action Group will be December 10th.

(b) CAG approved the recommendation not to meet in December. There was discussion that since the first phase of the buy-out begins in January 2002, perhaps a meeting in December is necessary. The decision was deferred until after DNR made its report. Subsequent to that report, CAG did vote to NOT have a meeting in December.

(c) Requests for volunteers to be on the Core Team in 2003: Anyone willing to serve on the Core Team – an additional six hour commitment over and above attending the CAG meetings and the Action Group meetings, please contact Gerty O'Leary at 475-3301 before the Action Group meeting on December 10th. (Requirements for serving on the Core Team are the same as voting for CAG.) The names of people volunteering to serve on the Core Team will be presented for a vote at the January CAG meeting.

(d) Larry O'Leary gave an update on the Selection Committee. The Committee has received resumes and is scheduling interviews. Recommendations for the facilitator will be brought to CAG for approval. He invited people who were interested to attend the December 3rd interviews. He also reported on the process for selecting the community convener.

(e) The Impact of Buy Out Priority Focus Group meeting will be held on November 21 – 7:00 p.m. at Gerty O'Leary's house. Joanne Thompson will be out of town that night, but the priority focus group will still meet.

(f) Other business focused on the yard remediation. Dean Wilson, Agronomist for University Outreach & Extension offered to conduct soil tests.

(g) It was suggested that CAG consider a more specific name for itself. CAG is generic and the hope is to have a name that conveys Herculanum's unique identity.

(over)

Agency Reports

Department of Natural Resources

- Kristi Perrin reported that a new unit (Outreach and Assistance Center) was created at DNR to help communities raise funds for community improvement projects. She will help put together financial plans incorporating public-private sources. Funding can be used for roads or bridges.
- Dave Mosby reported that there was no decision about haul routes.
- He also polled people's opinion about the need to send mailings or rely on information exchanged at the CAG meetings. Updates are important. EPA suggested a "Fact Sheet."
- He reported that 12 homeowners are participating in the voluntary buyout, and three buyouts are pending. Approximately 26 homes were eligible. The second phase of the buyout begins in January 2003. Offers must be received by December 2004. People expressed a need for clarification about a timeline, deadlines, and different procedures for different types of land – e.g., houses or vacant land.

Health Department

- Gale Carlson reported on preliminary results of an assessment. There will be a written report. The report will breakdown whether people lived on the east or west side of the highway. Over 400 people participated in the study.
- Money has not been allocated for ATBDR health studies.
- ALS study

Environmental Protection Agency

- Gene Gunn provided handouts for his presentation. He expressed concern that some people would not allow yards and interiors to be cleaned up – especially if children were residents. He also emphasized the importance of conducting clean up efforts with "customer satisfaction" as the goal.